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CAIRNS

AND HINTERLAND



NORTH QUEENSLAND

- BRISBANE -



Compiled and published by the
YANASI QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT TOURIST BUREAU
Adelaide Street, Brisbane

The MAGIC NORTH

NORTH QUEENSLAND is a land of magic with rare scenic grandeur and tropical splendour—a land with all the varied and redundant charms of the Tropics. Here on the north-eastern shoulder of the Continent is an extensive region which is utterly and completely different from the Southlands.

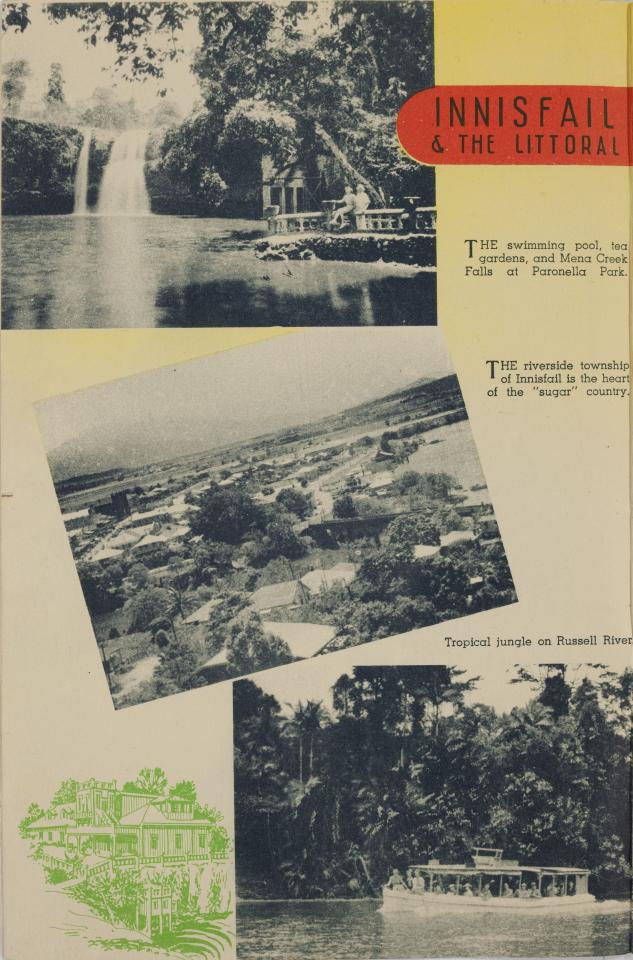
Within easy distance of one another are coral cays and silver shores, crater lakes and turbulent waterfalls, majestic mountains and extensive tablelands—lofty plateaux possessing a temperate climate although within the Tropic Zone.

What better holiday could the traveller seek? No wonder the beauty of the Magic Northlands impelled the well-known author and traveller, Doctor Thomas Wood, to write, "the cream of all the continent rises to the top of the milk in North Queensland."

No other area of similar extent in the whole of the Commonwealth holds within its borders such a diversity of really beautiful scenery, in addition to an incomparable winter climate. For these reasons the winter tour of North Queensland has become an institution of Australian life.

Readers who desire additional information concerning the resorts mentioned herein or particulars of accommodation and transportation costs and inclusive bookings, are invited to communicate with the Queensland Government Tourist Bureau.





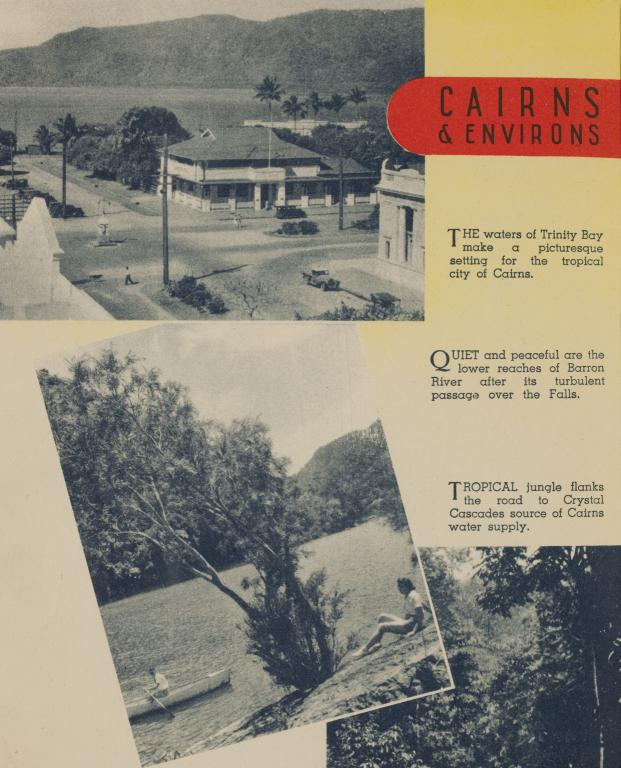
HAT section of great coastal railway—The Sunshine Route-from Innisfail to Cairns is the most fascinating of all. The tropical approach through the Kingdom of Sugar to Cairns and its magnificent hinterland, is a thrilling climax to the rail journey from Brisbane. On all sides between the escarpments of the coast range and the coast itself, green fields of sugar-cane spread over hills and dales like a shoreless sea. Bellenden-Ker Range dominates the landscape, with Bartle Frere (5,287 feet), Queensland's highest mountain, and Mt. Bellenden-Ker (5,220 feet) rival guardians. In the crushing season the sugar-mills grind in their iron maws ton after ton of cane ceaselessly fed to them by revolving rakes. On the languorous air is borne the smell of molasses; snorting little locomotives speed through verdant fields hauling long trains stacked with purple rods of succulent cane; and at nightfall gigantic flares of burning "trash" illuminate the landscape.

Innisfail, 54 miles south of Cairns, is beautifully situated at the junction of North and South Johnstone Rivers. The construction of the Palmerston Highway has provided quick and easy access to Atherton Tableland from Innisfail, and the consequent opening of the Palmerston lands has largely increased settlement in the locality. The Johnstone River district, picturesque and prodigal, possesses a wealth of scenic interest. A run through the canefields, or to Flying Fish Point or Etty Bay, never fails to attract. Mourilyan Harbour, landlocked and with 19 feet of water at low spring tides, is 12 miles south-east of Innisfail, with Mourilyan township half-way.

One of the most interesting scenic features of Innisfail is Paronella Park at Mena Creek—twelve acres of virgin scrub discriminately improved by a Spaniard, Joe Paronella, until it is now unique among Australian scenic attractions. Innisfail has a race-course, bowling green, and golf links.

The Mulgrave and Russell Rivers which rise on the Great Plateau make confluence about 30 miles south of Cairns. Dense jungle-clad ranges rise from the water's edge and there is an endless variety of indigenous trees, palms, ferns, orchids, and staghorns.

Sugar canefields at foot of Bellenden-Ker Range.



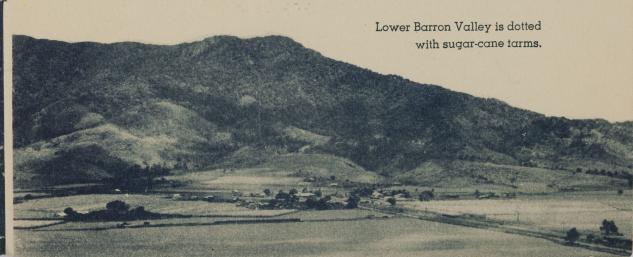
AIRNS, Mecca of the tourist, is Australia's most remote city, being 230 miles north of its next neighbour, Townsville. With an area of $14\frac{1}{2}$ square miles and a population of 16,000, it is the centre of one of the most prosperous provinces in the Commonwealth and the official port for a hinterland ranking among the richest agricultural regions in the world. The city lies languorous in summer and invitingly restful in winter, by the peaceful waters of Trinity Bay. Behind, the purple bastions of the Coast Range look down upon plains where broad savannahs of sugar-cane wave their green fronds like the multitudinous pennons of an invading army.

Among the beauty spots adjacent to Cairns which can be reached by car and bus are Crystal Cascades, the source of Cairns' water supply; Barron waters, at the junction of Stoney Creek and Barron River; Innisfail and Paronella Park to the south; Hartley's Creek, Port Douglas, and Mossman, by way of Cook Highway, to the north. For the greater part of the route Cook Highway skirts the coast affording splendid seascapes from several vantage points.

The most popular launch excursions are to Mulgrave and Russell Rivers, and to Green Island, the most easily accessible island of the Great Barrier Reefs.

Tourist cars leave regularly for Yungaburra, Malanda, and Atherton, on the Tablelands, by way of Gillies Highway, which climbs in easy gradients the range ramparts. During the tourist season, in addition to the daily rail service, special tourist trains with "grandstand" cars leave Cairns on certain days for Kuranda, through the Barron Gorge. There is time before the train returns for visitors to inspect the tropical tea gardens and Barron Falls. The recently constructed Highway from Cairns to Mareeba and Atherton also passes through Kuranda.

There are facilities for most of the sports at Cairns—golf, bowls, horse-racing, swimming, cricket, football, and sailing.



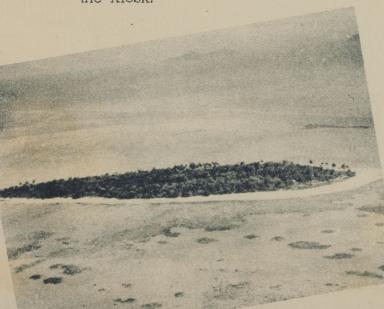


GREEN ISLAND

REEN ISLAND, 30 acres in area, which is reserved as a national park, is situated about 18 miles north-east of Cairns and 9 miles from Cape Grafton. It is one of the many drifts of islands breasting the long wash of the Coral Sea which are the last strongholds of romance. Built up of sand and coral debris, it is thickly wooded, and fringed with coral reefs which possess a wealth of tropical marine life. The whole length of the Great Barrier Reefs is like a gigantic

living museum, a treasure house of beauty and rareties, airconditioned by the trade winds under a sky that is nearly always fair, in which corals, shells, fish, and other things of the sea grow together as if in a garden. The reefs teem with life and colour; the soft pastel tones of the coral polyps contrast with the variegated brilliance of the mantles of clams and brightly-hued anemones. Equally interesting to the botanist is the rare variety of plant life on Green Island.

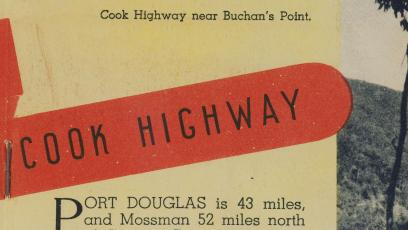
Visitors are able to view the coraline wonders by drifting over the reefs and gazing through glass-bottomed floats. Accommodation is available on the island and refreshments may be obtained at the Kiosk.



Access to Green Island is provided by a launch service from Cairns.



Aerial view of Green Island.

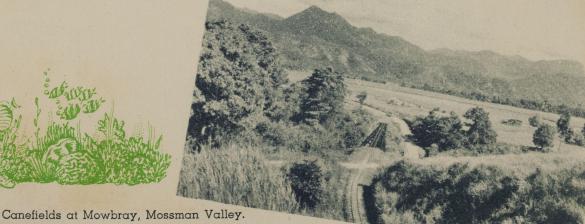


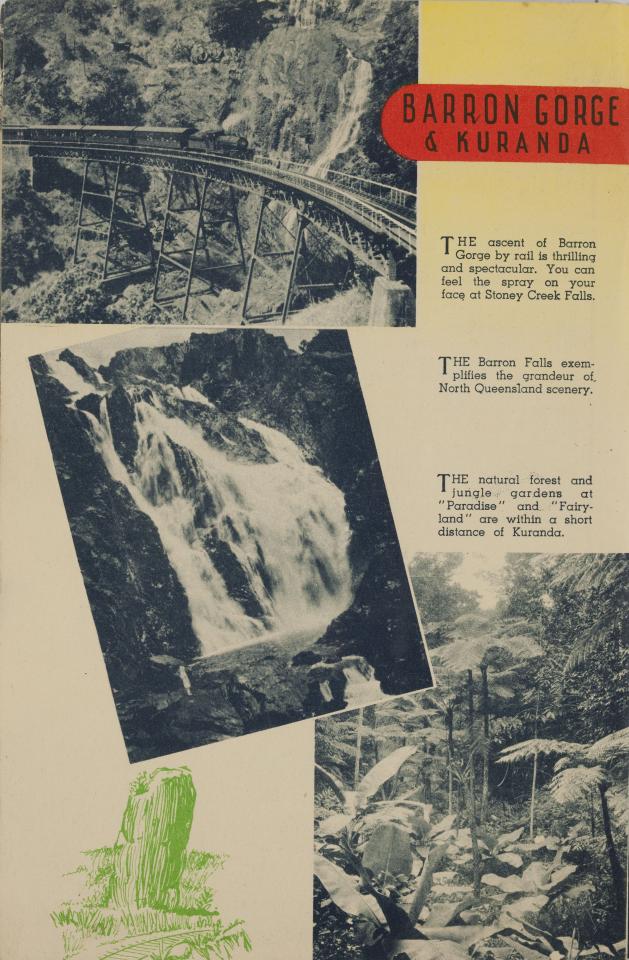
and Mossman 52 miles north of Cairns. Communication is provided by the scenic Cook Highway which for 26 miles skirts the tropic coast and provides splendid seascapes. After leaving the coast the road passes through green cane-fields and crosses many clear-flowing streams. Hartley's Creek (25 miles) and Yule Point (33 miles) are points of interest along the route.

Port Douglas is one of the oldest towns in North Queensland, having been first seitled in 1877 when it became the point of disembarkation for the mineral fields of the Hodgkinson and Herberton. The Mowbray River flows into the sea 3 miles south of Port Douglas and the Mossman 3 miles to the north.

Mossman is the administrative centre for the whole district and is delightfully situated. It is alert and up-to-date with bitumen streets, modern buildings, water, and electric light supplied from one of the innumerable mountain waterfalls. Towering over Mossman is the forbidding Mt. Demy (3,800 feet). Within the town is a highly efficient sugar mill, which during the winter

months is the heart and pulse of the district's life. There is a daily car service between Cairns, Port Douglas, and Mossman.

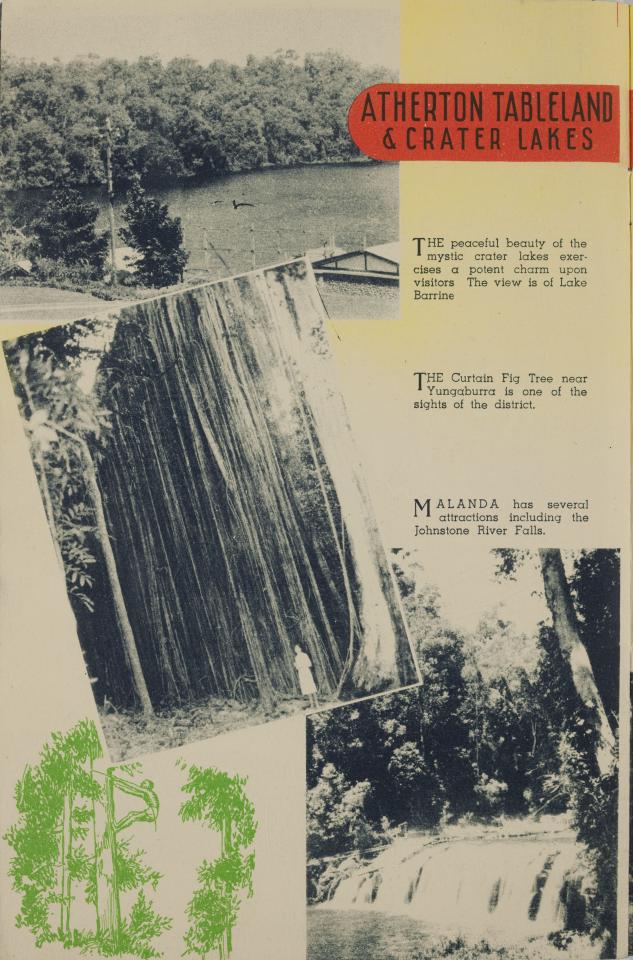




HE grandeur of northern scenery attains its highest degree of perfection with the Barron Gorge and Falls. The journey to the Tablelands through the Barron Gorge is via the most wonderful scenic railway in the Commonwealth. As the mountain train commences its long strong climb "Over the Bump" to the Great Plateau, the landscape below unfolds in a series of magnificent panoramas. The Barron Gorge rolls back in orderly retreat among an "amphitheatre of purple hills," and far to the east there are glimpses of the shimmering waters of Trinity Bay. The view from Red Bluff; the water splashing on your face as you pass Stoney Creek Falls; Robb's Monument—the great column of rock by the edge of the Gorge—which is a memorial to the engineer who constructed the railroad; the silver thread of the Barron River far below, exciting as they are, are only preliminaries to what awaits at the head of the Gorge. Here the river suddenly falls in gigantic cascades to the glistering black rocks in the chasm 800 feet below. It is a wonderful sight, awe-inspiring in its grandeur.

The varied beauty of the little tourist township of Kuranda a short distance above Barron Falls, offers a charming introduction to the magnificent scenery of the Great Plateau. To seekers after health, rest, or other recuperative influences, Kuranda at 1,080 feet above sea level would be hard to beat. The visitor whose time is measured by an unrelenting hand will find much to do, and his stay will be crowded with sightseeing unless it be longer than a few days. The riotous splendour of a tropic jungle is revealed to advantage by a stroll through "Paradise" or "Fairyland" tea gardens. To reach both you are ferried across the slowly flowing Barron River and enter a natural aboretum by a leaf-strewn path which winds among tall colonades of valuable luxury timbers, while intricate traceries of vines, creepers, staghorns, and orchids hang in festoons from the treetops. Then there are visits to be made to King O'Malley's Chair, Forgan Smith's Lookout, Grey Mare's Tail, and the Devil's Pool, and those morning dips in the refreshingly cool waters of the Barron. Both the hotels at Kuranda have tennis courts





FOR those who prefer the calm contemplative beauty of mountain and tableland to the siren call of the Barrier Reef, a world of picturesque charm awaits them on Atherton Tableland. Tourists usually make Atherton, Yungaburra, or Malanda their headquarters, from which the various beauty spots are easily accessible. Jungle Avenue, Johnstone River Falls, and Glen Allyn Falls are near Malanda. An interesting and unusual trip is to Herberton "Crater" at Mount Hypipamee. The Tully Falls, which rival the Barron in grandeur, and the Millaa and Millstream Falls are near Ravenshoe. There are tennis courts, a bowling green, and a swimming pool at Malanda; tennis courts and golf links at Yungaburra; bowling green, tennis courts, golf links, and a swimming pool at Atherton; and tennis courts and golf links at Ravenshoe.

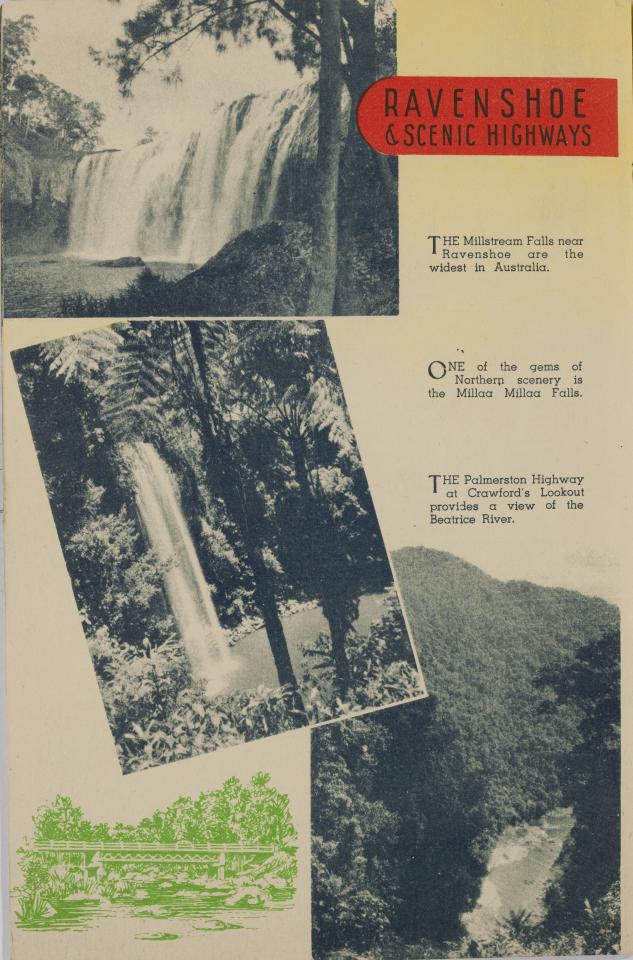
A visit to the beautiful crater lakes of Eacham and Barrine (or "Yeetcham" and "Barrang," as they were known to the aborigines) constitutes one of the highlights of a tour on the Great Plateau. Lake Eacham is situated 4 miles from Yungaburra. The lake surface is 2,478 feet above sea level, and has an area of 130 acres. The depth is 226 feet. Lake Barrine lies about 3 miles north of Lake Eacham and is the largest of the caldera lakes on the Tablelands. The level of Barrine is 2,400 feet, depth 360 feet, and area 256 acres.

The peaceful beauty of the lakes always exercises a potent charm upon visitors. The matted jungle falls steeply to the water's edge. Picturesque umbrella trees, scarlet splashes of "flare" trees, and the stately heights of maples, beans, oaks, pines, and other cabinet timbers are plumed with orchids, staghorns, and trailing vines. The Appian Way skirts Lake Eacham for some distance. Vision Falls and the Wishing Well are in close proximity.

About 100 miles due west of Atherton, but not at present readily accessible, are the Chillagoe and Mungana Caves, remarkable for their number and size. When developed and improved the Caves will be worthy rivals to Jenolan and Yarrongobilly, and an added attraction of the North.

Yarrongobilly, and an added attraction of the North.

View from Heale's Lookout, Gillies Highway.

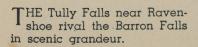


HERE a few decades ago the pack track of the pioneers laboriously climbed the eastern fall of the Great Plateau. now one of the finest scenic highways in the Commonwealth—the Gillies Range Road—connects Cairns District with the Tablelands. From Atherton and Yungaburra it sweeps through undulating dairying and agricultural country, with a turn-off to Lake Barrine, until the top gate (2,700 feet) is reached. Every one of the 612 turns in the 12 miles from top to bottom gates unfolds fresh vistas of transcendent beauty. From Heale's Lookout (2,000 feet) there is an open vision of the world—a magnificient panorama sweeping far to the coast, a serried array of ranges, peaks, and valleys, with the majestic Walsh Pyramid standing out conspicuously. Once through the lower gate the big tourist coaches gather speed and flash past sugar-cane plantations and farms, the confluence of the Little and Great branches of the Mulgrave River, and then on to Gordonvale and Cairns.

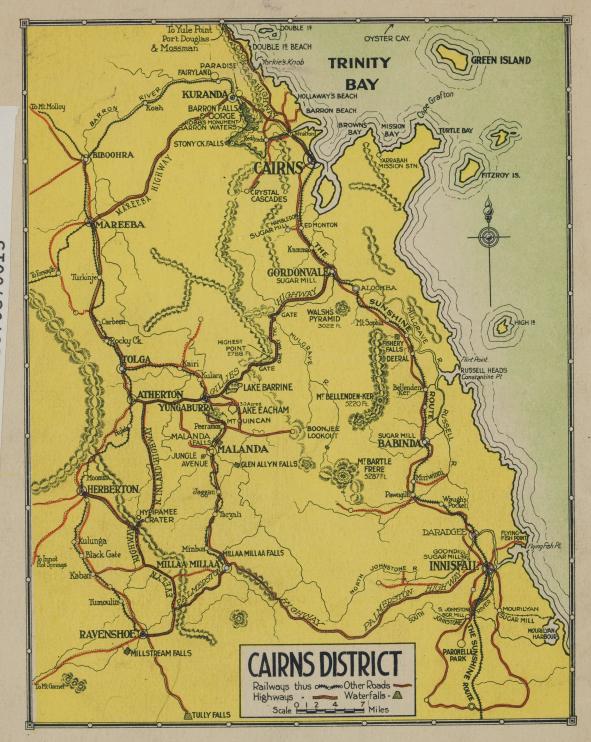
A tour of the Tablelands would not be complete without a visit to Tully Falls (962 feet), some 20 miles south-east from Ravenshoe (2,969 feet). Five miles from Ravenshoe are the Millstream Falls. Though only 80 feet high they are the widest in Australia. Little Millstream Falls and

Bitabba Falls are close to the town. There are golf links and tennis courts at Rayenshoe.

The construction of the Palmerston Highway provides the tourist who has journeyed to Ravenshoe by way of Kuranda or the Gillies Highway, an alternative return route to the The 58 miles coast. Ravenshoe from to Innisfail is one of the highspots of a northern tour. Sixteen miles from Ravenshoe the road passes through Millaa Millaa quite close to which in an attractive jungle setting are the Millaa Millaa Falls.







FOR INFORMATION AND BOOKINGS

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ADELAIDE STREET, BRISBANE

Martin Place, Sydney: Cr. Collins and Elizabeth Streets, Melbourne; and at Coolangatta, Rockhampton, Mackay, Townsville, Cairns.